



TUESDAY EVENING, JAN. 27, 1903.

THE recent shooting of Editor Gonzales by Lieutenant-Governor Tillman in South Carolina, is much to be deplored, for the taking of human life is dreadful under any circumstances, but there are too sides to the affair, and possibly when both are heard, the slayer will have the sympathy of many. The practice that some newspapers have of outrageously attacking and traducing men is exceedingly wrong, and in many cases entirely unjustifiable, and not infrequently men so attacked prefer to risk their lives in a duel or face a jury for manslaughter rather than let such attacks go uncorrected. All will admit that Tillman had been most severely lambasted by Gonzales in public print, and the testimony of the coroner's jury will show that he even had cause to suppose that bodily harm might follow the newspaper attack, for Senator Talbird, who was with Tillman at the time of the shooting, swore that when within ten feet of Gonzales, Tillman said: "How are you Mr. Gonzales?" Gonzales made no reply, but turned and reached for his pocket. Then Tillman said: "I received your message," and fired almost instantly. The Staunton Spectator has the following very sensible article upon this distressing affair:

"There was great provocation. It is thoroughly understood in the South generally, and in South Carolina particularly, that when a newspaper man publishes another as 'a criminal candidate,' 'a deceiver,' and 'a proven liar,' he deliberately puts himself in peril of his life. It is no argument against this state of facts to say that such conditions should not exist; they do exist, and the result is almost inevitable. Killing under such circumstances may be called assassination or any other name, but that does not prevent the party whose reputation has been attacked, or assassinated or slain, from attempting to assassinate the assassin of his reputation. Blood may be hotter in South Carolina and Texas than in the colder climate of Massachusetts; or even here in Virginia, but should a newspaper man here go out of his way to thus denounce many of our citizens the same result would follow. * * * We wonder whether there are many who uphold Gonzales in the assault he made on Mr. Tillman? We wonder whether there has grown in those parts of the country where shooting under such provocation is denounced, a sentiment which warrants the act of Gonzales? We hope not. Certainly Gonzales knew the man whose character he was assaulting. He knew he was no poltroon nor coward; he knew whether he said was true or false he must account to him for what he had said, and as Gonzales had chosen the seclusion of his own sanctum as the place, and his own time in which to deliberately assassinate the character of Tillman, Tillman might with equal propriety choose his own time to attack Gonzales. Gonzales was unarmed, we are told. This was his misfortune. Common sense in a South Carolina editor would have first prevented him from doing so rash a thing as publish such a vile article. But if done, certainly common sense would have told him to arm himself and to do it effectively. We must therefore conclude that whatever virtues may be ascribed to Gonzales he was totally deficient in ordinary common sense. No one but himself can be blamed for having deliberately given the pretext for the shooting, and none but himself can be blamed for not being on the same footing with Tillman when the hour arrived for gun practice."

AT THE thirteenth annual banquet of the Confederate Veteran Camp of New York, held last night at the Waldorf-Astoria, Charles Francis Adams, of Massachusetts, a soldier of the Union, responded to the toast of "Robert E. Lee." Henry Watterson, a soldier of the Confederacy, paid tribute to the character of Abraham Lincoln. The third toast to Jefferson Davis was responded to by William Hepburn Russell, formerly of Missouri and now commissioner of accounts of the New York city government. Among other things Mr. Adams said in the course of his response was the following:

"Some six months ago in a certain academic address at Chicago I called to mind the fact that a statue of Oliver Cromwell now stood in the yard of Parliament House in London, close to that historic hall of Westminster from the roof of which his severed head had once looked down. Calling to mind the strange changes of feeling evinced by the memory of that grinning skull and the presence of that image of bronze, remembering that Cromwell, once traitor and regicide, stood now conspicuous among England's worthiest and most honored, I asked: Why should it not also be so with Lee? Why should not his effigy, erect on his charger and wearing the insignia of his Confederate rank, gaze from his pedestal across the Potomac at the Virginia shore and his once dearly loved home at Arlington? He, too, is one of the precious possessions of what is an essential factor in the nation that now is and is to be. Cromwell's effigy is a private gift, placed where it is by an act of parliament. So, when the time is ripe, should it be with Lee, and the time will come."

FORMALIN, one of the strongest antiseptics known, has been found to be a cure for blood poisoning, according to a report made by Dr. Charles C. Barrows at the latest meeting of the New York Obstetrical Society. The drug is injected into the veins of the patient,

Now it is to be hoped that some other doctors will not come along and knock Dr. Barrows' theory into a cocked hat.

THE theory that lemon juice will kill typhoid germs, recently announced by Dr. Ferguson, of London, and confirmed by the Chicago Board of Health, has been tested by the New York board, which declared it impracticable owing to the large amount of the acid required and the length of time necessary to make the death of the germ certain. When doctors disagree who is to determine?

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

Washington, D. C., Jan. 27. Signor Mayor des Planches, the Italian Ambassador; Sir Michael Herbert, the British Ambassador; and Count Quadri, the German charge d'affaires, had a consultation with Minister Bowen, Venezuela's representative, at the Arlington Hotel this morning. Although Great Britain, Germany and Italy have not yet returned definite answers to Minister Bowen's proposal in behalf of Venezuela, yet their representatives, consulted Mr. Bowen this morning as to details of his proposition and thus indirectly conceded that their principals were disposed to accept it in general. These questions, asked by the allies' representatives, were evidently for the purpose of gaining time for agreement among themselves since it is known that Mr. Bowen on Saturday set a limit to the duration of his patience. Little time will be consumed in awaiting the official answers, or in their consideration, and it is believed that the end of the imbroglio is now close at hand. Mr. Bowen has not yet received assurances as to the exact time when the allies will be willing to raise their concerted blockade but it cannot be far distant.

Congressman Lessler, of New York, was the first witness before the House committee on naval affairs today in connection with the sensational bribery charges which have been engaging the attention of the committee for a week. Philip Doblin, in his testimony yesterday, had intimated that the whole testimony which he first gave was suggested to him by Mr. Lessler. Mr. Lessler took the stand at 11 a. m. "I deny as false the statement made by the witness yesterday," he said, "as to any collusion scheme he charges against me. Mr. Doblin came into my room shortly after 8 o'clock. I was in bed. I said, 'How's that?' he asked, 'I have told the committee the whole Holland boat story.' 'It is trouble,' he replied. 'I said, 'keep up your nerve and you have nothing to do but to tell the truth, the whole truth.' I told him that at the request of the committee I would not discuss the case with him at all. I gave him a copy of the paper containing what had been published. After that there was no talk of his testimony. It was all relative to the political ruin in New York. I did see the Speaker and told him about the investigation and wanted him to help me avoid notoriety. He said, 'It must go on for the present.' I telephoned my secretary to the Normandy and bring Doblin before the committee. Doblin appeared before the committee and I saw him no more until he returned to the committee. I want to deny also the statement of the witness McCullagh to the effect that I had said that I believed there was only one man on the committee whom I could trust. Also the statement of witness Quigg that I had said that the members of the committee who voted for or against the Holland boat were honest or dishonest." Mr. Lessler said he had had no reason before yesterday to disbelieve Doblin. "I am totally at a loss to understand his action," he asserted. "When did you make up your mind to tell the committee about the matter?" Mr. Rixey asked. "I never did make up my mind," Lessler replied. "In the discussion of the subject it simply came right out." Lessler denied that Doblin was ever under any serious obligations to him. He had done him some favors, but nothing of any unusual character. When he went from Washington to New York with Doblin he paid his (Doblin's) fare home. It is understood that the House committee on naval affairs is ready to announce its verdict in the case. It will be to the effect that an offer was made to Lessler by Doblin. That no evidence be placed in the testimony of Doblin, and that no connection of Mr. Quigg with the improper offer has been shown. The verdict is considered a vindication for both Lessler and Quigg. It is the intention to bring this case probably before the House.

Mayor William C. Maybury, of Detroit, opened the "Get Coal" Convention at the Shoreham this morning, about 50 delegates being present. He made a stirring address on the necessity of correcting the existing conditions because of the lack of coal, and said that in Detroit there had established municipal coal yards where soft coal was now on sale at \$4.50 a ton, and as a consequence the soft coal market there had gone down. Senator William E. Mason, of Illinois, was introduced as presiding officer and made a most earnest appeal to the convention to exert all its influence in a petition to Congress to apply to coal the same doctrine that was now applied to bread and water. He said that if this was not done by process of law it would be done by the commune and revolution would result. Referring to his introduction of the bill in Congress to provide that the United States Government take possession of all unoperated coal mines and operate them for the benefit of the people, Senator Mason said that it had been claimed that if such a bill was passed it would soon be applied to steel mills and all other sources of general supply. "Absurdity of absurdities," he said. "The people can live without steel rails, they can wait for wagons, but they cannot wait for bread; they cannot wait for water and light and heat, and coal is as much of a necessity as light and air." Representative Gaines, of Tennessee, insisted that there was a conspiracy among the coal operators and dealers and demanded that the people ask the Attorney General of the United States why he had not enforced the requirements of the Sherman anti-trust law. Timothy A. Tarsney, corporation counsel of Detroit, referred to the cast iron pipe combine cases in Tennessee, where in the operators were found guilty under the provisions of the Sherman act and fined \$5,000 each, and said that some legislators might be able to draw a distinction between iron pipe made in Tennessee and transported to other States

and anthracite coal mined in Pennsylvania and sent all over the United States, but that this convention was here for the purpose of correcting that impression and securing the full observance of the law. A general discussion on the subject followed.

The Brazilian Minister and the Bolivian charge d'affaires again called at the State Department today and had separate talks with Secretary Hay relative to the dispute of their government over the possession of the territory of Acre. It is more than tacitly admitted that Secretary Hay is endeavoring to play the roll of peacemaker between Brazil and Bolivia; but whether he will be successful at present seems doubtful.

The President has decided to appoint Col. Charles L. Davis, 5th Infantry, U. S. A., a brigadier general, vice Col. Hayes, who retired yesterday. Col. Davis served in the civil war as a volunteer officer from Pennsylvania, and was appointed to the regular army in 1866.

Senator Scott, of West Virginia, today addressed the Senate urging the adoption of his resolution for the appointment of a commission to examine the present pension laws, report any changes that may be desirable and "to investigate the desirability of pensioning all soldiers who served 90 days during the civil war who were honorably discharged, have reached the age of 62, and make application for same, at the rate of \$12 per month."

In a special report on the cholera situation in the Philippines made to the Marine Hospital Service by Dr. J. C. Perry, representing the service in Manila, he says: "The recent increase in the number of cases in Manila, in my opinion, was due principally to 'fiestas,' or celebrations attended by large numbers of natives, many of whom came from the surrounding districts. Another factor operative at this time was the coming to Manila of a number of refugees on account of the prevalence of cholera in an adjacent province, the latter place being infected with cholera. The total number of cases reported to December, 9, 1902, is as follows:—Manila, 4,533 cases, 3,402 deaths; provinces, 117,246 cases, 74,505 deaths; but this number does not represent more than two-thirds of the actual number of cases and deaths which have occurred since the first appearance of the disease in these islands."

Representative Jones (rep. Wash.) introduced in the House a sharply worded resolution declaring it to be the sense of the House that there is no occasion for an Alaskan boundary commission.

Acting Secretary of the Navy Darling, has received from the board which recently examined Paymaster John C. Sullivan, U. S. N., for promotion, a report which he considers very unsatisfactory. Secretary Darling has returned the findings to the board asking for a positive statement as to whether Sullivan is or is not crazy.

Miss Alice Roosevelt will leave shortly for the South and will visit New Orleans during the Mardi Gras festivities.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

The re-election of Senator H. M. Teller, of Colorado, was practically conceded yesterday by the seceding republican State Senators returning to the regularly organized Senate controlled by democrats.

Between 12 and 1 o'clock yesterday morning Edward Mitchell was taken from the county jail, at Madison, Boone county, W. V., where he was awaiting trial for the killing of Lee Swords, by a mob and lynched.

Benjamin Oney, Sheriff of St. James Parish, Louisiana, was shot and instantly killed by Joe Thomas, a negro yesterday. Last night Thomas's ashes were hidden beneath the smoldering embers of the cabin which was his home. Retaliation was swift and horrible.

Sir Hiram Maxim in his latest letter on the Bank of Monte Carlo, says: "The bank collects a fixed and well defined percentage on all moneys which pass over its tables and no system or combination of systems can in the least influence this percentage."

CONGRESSIONAL.

In the Senate yesterday a resolution, offered by Mr. Morgan, of Alabama, questioning the credentials of Dr. Herndon, the Colombian charge d'affaires who signed with Secretary Hay the canal treaty, caused the Senate to go into a long executive session. At its conclusion the diplomatic and consular appropriation bill was passed. The Lodge amendment, providing for a reorganization of the consular service, was ruled out of order and debate there-by cut off.

Yesterday was District of Columbia day in the House, but as Chairman Babcock had not completed his report of the \$10,000,000 loan bills that measure went over. A number of bills of minor importance were passed. The Indian appropriation bill was next up, but it was not completed.

TELEGRAPHIC BREVITIES.

Bob Fitzsimmons challenges Tommy Ryan, Gus Ruhlin, "Kid" McCoy, Jack O'Brien and all the rest to meet him at the Millionaires show and agree to put every one of them to sleep inside of four rounds or forfeit to each man \$250.

Because of an order by American Tite Plate Company, that workmen assert will eliminate one clause of their wage agreement, the Associated Association in all tin plate mills throughout the country are on the verge of a strike.

LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

The dog-tax law was passed by the Senate by a vote of 18 to 12, owing to the absence of Senator Cogbill, who is interested in its passage.

The bill making an appropriation of \$5,000 to the Virginia School for the Deaf and Blind was ordered engrossed. The bill to provide for the commitment of habitual drunkards and opium eaters to private asylums and sanitariums and for committing their estates to the care of a trustee during such treatment, came up on its engrossment, but after debate was passed by.

HOUSE.

There was a prolonged discussion when Senate bill No. 125 was reached on the second reading. This bill amends and re-enacts title 8 of the code in relation to salaries, mileage, and other allowances of State officers.

The House committee offered several amendments, and the disposition of several members was to defer consideration and action until the bill, with amendments had been printed. This was finally agreed to.

The bill to compensate the heirs of J. J. Moran was ordered to its engrossment. The House bill to amend section 12 of an act to aid the citizens of Virginia who are disabled by wounds received during the war between the States while serving as soldiers, sailors or marines of Virginia, and who are now disabled by disease, contracted during the war, or by the infirmities of age, and the widows of soldiers, sailors, or marines of Virginia, who lost their lives in said service, or whose death resulted from wounds received or disease contracted in said service, and providing penalties for violating the provisions of this act, was passed.

Bills were offered to amend the law in relation to insurance companies, so as to prevent companies from making defense for violations of restrictive provisions of their policies in cases where assured can show company was not injured.

To amend the law in relation to the appointment of school trustees.

To amend the law in relation to levying district school taxes.

KILLED GIRL AND NEGRO.

A horrible double tragedy was enacted in Union county, about fifteen miles from Charlotte, N. C., yesterday afternoon. Eli Rogers, a well-known young man, of Union county, shot and killed Willie Richardson, colored, and afterward walking 300 yards from the dead body of Richardson, he deliberately leveled his gun at Miss May Pressley, and killed her instantly. Rogers wrote Miss Pressley a note several days ago, and the negro, Will Richardson, was the messenger who delivered it to the young woman. When Richardson returned Rogers asked for the reply. Richardson told him there was none, and furthermore added that Miss Pressley laughed when the note was handed her. Nothing more was thought of the incident until yesterday, when Rogers appeared at the negro's house, and called him out. Just as Richardson stepped from his door, Rogers fired at him, the ball entering the negro's heart, and death resulted almost instantly. Just about 300 yards from the negro's house is the home of Mr. Jackson Helms, the step-father of Miss Pressley. Rogers left the dead body of Helms. Arriving at the house, he rang the bell, and Miss Pressley came to the door. Without saying a word, he pulled his gun and shot the young woman dead. Rogers has twice been an inmate of an asylum. He is only twenty-five years old and his people are quite prominent in North Carolina.

SSOW FELL UPON CORPSE.—During the panic which resulted from a fire in a crowded Italian tenement at No. 409 east One Hundred and Sixth street, New York, before daylight yesterday, a corpse in a casket, over which a wake was in progress, was carried down the perilously narrow stairs with rows of candlebearers on either side and out into the street, where the snow was falling heavily. The coffin, containing the body of Custantio Ticio, a young man who died Saturday, and who was buried yesterday, was placed on chairs in the street in front of the burning building and between the fire engines, until arrangements could be made to take it to an undertaker's rooms. While the mourners were chanting their prayers the fire knelt in the snow about the dead the frantic shriek of a woman was heard, and the crowd turned their eyes from the scene quick enough to see a young woman clad only in a white nightgown leap from a second story window and fall in a heap on the sidewalk. She was Josephine Cappola, who had been cut off from escape through the stairs by the flames, and who did not wait until a ladder could be run up to her. Her left leg was broken and she was sent to the Harlem Hospital.

SPLENDORS AND EXTRAVAGANCES.—The recent doings at court of Prince Leopold, the aged Regent of Bavaria, is causing widespread comment, as they show a decided tendency toward the luxury and display of the exotic and eccentric which has landed recent Bavarian monarchs in virtual lunatic asylums. The Prince Regent's idiosyncrasy is in the direction of the most elaborate and fantastic table decorations and of dishes in extraordinary forms.

At the latest court ball supper there was so dazzling an array of artistic conceits that the guests were with difficulty induced to demolish them. Huge lobsters were set in mayonnaise fashioned in models of Moorish buildings, every detail being perfect. The fish were disguised in intricate Sèvres work designs copied from works of the most famous masters. Fillets of beef were served on dishes fashioned to resemble the Bavarian public edifices. Numerous wild boar heads, lavishly ornamented, and quarters of deer were on vast silver dishes surrounded by oak leaves and a complete representation of a hunting scene in delicious paint. The fishes were laid flat on silver dishes and arranged to make a portrait of the Prince Regent.

A Scientific Discovery. Kodol does for the stomach what which it is unable to do for itself, even when but slightly disordered or overloaded. Kodol supplies the natural juices of digestion and does the work of the stomach, relaxing the tension of the stomach, and enabling the stomach and digestive organs to transform all food into rich, red blood. For sale by E. S. Leadbeater & Sons.

Accident in a Mine. Scranton, Pa., Jan. 27.—A frightful accident occurred in the Bellevue mine shortly before noon today by the accident of explosion of powder. Ten miners were disfigured in a fearful manner, and a number may die. They were taken to the Lackawanna Hospital.

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

From Richmond.

[Special dispatch to the Alexandria Gazette.]—Richmond, Va., Jan. 27.—A big fight is in progress here over the bill shortening the oyster season. It was passed by the legislature last session. It was passed by the legislature last session.

The annexation plan is to be decided to-night and the popular election system for annexing property to cities will win.

The Lewis bill to allow passenger trains to be flagged comes up February 10.

Mr. Whitehead, of Norfolk, offered in the House a drastic bill as to newspaper libel, it being practically the North Carolina law.

The bill to relieve J. J. Moran's heirs passed the House.

Mr. Clayton offered a general liquor dispensary bill in the Senate which is similar to the South Carolina plan. Mr. John H. Mann declared his opposition and said he would press the Mann bill.

The Leake stock law is set as a special order for February 6.

Great Loss of Life in London Fire.

London, Jan. 27.—One of the most sensational fires London has seen in years partially destroyed the State Asylum at Colney Hatch, north London, this morning, and many persons lost their lives in the flames. The fire started at 5:30 in the Jewish wing, which has 600 inmates. The lunatics had been asleep and when awakened tore away from the attendants, and raced up and down the corridors in a dazed way trying to escape. A number got out of the building and are still at large. When the firemen got to work they found it was a hopeless task to try and save the wing where the flames originated. By 8 o'clock the fire was under control. It was at first thought all the lunatics had been either taken out by the attendants, or had escaped, but after the flames were under control, several bodies were found in the ruins, the latest computation by the authorities placing the number of dead at 50. The bodies taken out were disfigured beyond recognition. All that have so far been recovered are women. It was not till noon that the work of recovering the bodies was completed. The remains of 51 persons were found in the ruins.

London is thrilled with horror at the disaster. It seems that nothing was provided for such an emergency. There are no fire escapes to the buildings, and practically no water available. The work of rescue was heroic but failed because of lack of system and appliances.

In addition to this, the asylum was surrounded by a high wall, thus excluding all possible voluntary assistance to the staff. The part of the building burned was a flimsy affair of corrugated iron and wood. It was built for temporary use five years ago. A majority of the windows were barred with iron, preventing escape. Feeble women were seen struggling fiercely to break these bars, at last being forced to fall back and perish in the flames. There were 2,600 inmates in the entire institution, but only 500 occupied the burned section. These were mostly old women.

A majority of the victims were suffocated. Those nearest to the point where the fire broke out were evidently burned in their beds before they were able to move to places of safety. Others were huddled in corners. Groups were also found in the corridors. So great was the heat that people in a building 50 yards away had to be moved. Some of the women were afflicted with a maniacal fear of fire and when they raised their shrieks the horror of the occasion was if possible more pronounced. The iron beds with their wire mattresses melted with the horrible bundle of human remains in the centre.

London, Jan. 27.—It is stated at the German embassy today that there is not the slightest truth in the reports of friction or misunderstanding between England and Germany in regard to Venezuela.

German Ship Ashore on Welsh Coast.

Liverpool, Jan. 27.—The vessel which went ashore off Aberystwyth Point, ten miles from Holyhead, yesterday, proves to be the German steamer Bothide Russ, of Hamburg. The steamer left here on Saturday last bound for Cardiff. The first news of the stranding of the steamer was obtained when seventeen of her crew reached shore near Holyhead in small boats. The remainder of the vessel's crew were rescued notwithstanding the heavy sea which was running. When the report of the steamer ashore first became current rumor had it that it was a big American liner, and in some quarters it was stated that the St. Paul had come to grief. This report was quickly laid, however, by the fact that the St. Paul does not steam anywhere near Holyhead. The Bothide Russ is a total wreck.

A Tripartite Elopement.

Madison, Wis., Jan. 27.—George King, of Brooklyn, Wis., eloped with three women from three different villages in two days. King is a married man, 27 years old, and started on his royal elopement Sunday morning at Mount Horeb, by running away with his brother's wife, a girl of 16. King deserted the woman, after taking the \$250 she had appropriated from her husband's purse, and left for Columbus, with a woman of DeForest. At Columbus King left the DeForest woman and, with a widow of that city, started for Fall River. Since then he has not been seen. The two deserted women are on their way home and a sheriff is hot after King and the other woman.

A Bad Day for the Czar.

Vienna, Jan. 27.—The Die Zeit today reports that the Czar, while walking in the park at Livadia recently, was accosted by a Polish woman named Krzeschinskaja, whom the Czar favored years ago. The girl evaded the Czar's advances, and the Czar, according to the paper, demanded compensation from his majesty for her desertion. The Czar girl resisted, and her angry cries were heard by the Czarina. The Die Zeits says, had a bad day indoors.

Death Knell to Ambitious Powers.

Vienna, Jan. 27.—The Arbeiter Zeitung says in the signing of the anti treaty by the United States and Panama the death knell of the ambitions of England, Germany and all other European powers. The paper adds: "America will soon be the predominant world power. Europe will smart under the burden of American tyranny. The Kaiser will perhaps become the vassal of the American Republic."

The Kaiser's Birthday.

Berlin, Jan. 27.—The Kaiser is 44 years old today. This morning his majesty held his birthday reception in the White Hall of the royal family and the various diplomats in Berlin. Among those who congratulated the Kaiser was United States Ambassador Toser, with whom the Emperor had a long, familiar conversation.

The vault of the bank at Steelville, Ill., was blown open with nitro glycerine early this morning and \$3,000 taken.

FOREIGN NEWS.

The French chambers today granted the government credit for 3,000,000 francs to cover the expenditure in connection with the relief of the victims of the eruption of Mount Pelee on the island of Martinique.

The newspaper Nouvelliste, of Rouen, today proposes and international conference preferably at The Hague to regulate the liberty of the Panama canal before the United States begins work on it. The paper says the neutrality regarding the Suez canal is assured because it is international property controlled by the United States, would become the pretext for a general war unless the question is settled once and for all.

Prince Ludwig, heir to the Bavarian throne, in a speech at a banquet given in the Kaiser's honor at Munich yesterday evening, denied the reports that misunderstandings existed between the Kaiser and himself. There was the greatest friendship between them, he said.

The escape of the Crown Prince Louis of Saxony has caused strained relations between the King and the Crown Prince. The Prince urges clemency while the King declares that the matter affects the dynasty and demands the severest measures.

The sentence of Col. Arthur Lynch, the Irish member of Parliament, condemned at London last week for high treason, was today commuted to penal servitude for life.

It is announced today that the British government has invited tenders for the construction of 15,000 ton battleships which will eclipse anything in the world.

Charles M. Schwab, President of the United States Steel Corporation, has requested a private audience with the Pope.

THR VENEZUELAN AFFAIR.

Great Britain and Germany have notified United States Minister Bowen, representing Venezuela, that they are willing to accept the basis of his proposition for a full settlement of the Venezuelan dispute. A Rome cablegram states that Italy will take similar action today.

Minister Bowen in return for the raising of the blockade, offers 30 per cent. of the customs receipts at La Guayra and Puerto Cabello in payment of the claims. These receipts, he proposes, should be collected by a joint commission made up of one representative of each power having claims against Venezuela. The methods of making the collections have not been definitely settled yet. In Berlin it is suggested that Mr. Bowen himself might be the receiver.

Part of the receipts at the two ports named were already pledged as security for Venezuela's foreign debt.

It is stated in Rome that one of the powers insists on 50 instead of 30 per cent. of the receipts.

As soon as the details of the agreement are completed the blockade will be raised. In official circles at La Guayra it is said that the blockade will end Wednesday.

When the question of security is finally disposed of a commission, representing all the powers, will adjudicate each claim. It is expected that every phase of the dispute will be settled with reference to The Hague tribunal.

New York banks, including J. P. Morgan & Co. and J. & W. Seligman & Co., are understood to be willing to arrange for the preliminary payments demanded by the powers.

A MINISTER WINS AT GAMBLING.

Rev. W. J. Holt, of Moundsville, formerly pastor of the Elkins (W. Va.) Methodist Episcopal congregation, conducted a session in the revival services which have been in progress at Moundsville for the past few weeks by making an open confession from the floor of the assembly room. He said he had fallen from grace; had been drinking heavily, finally passing to gambling, in which he won \$5,000. He said he had accumulated property and worldly goods, and had led a life he should have eschewed and not even contemplated.

The young clergyman, after leaving his congregation, took up the study of law, and recently acquired some property at Moundsville. The manner and methods of its getting he told openly, and pledged his friends that he would do better. The incident, his friends declare, demonstrated true contrition, and he is once more in the good graces of his former religious associates.

The revival that prompted Rev. Mr. Holt to take this step has been in progress for several days, and 300 have professed conversion. The church is the scene of all-day meetings. Even the saloons have closed in response to requests from the church people.

MINISTER LEAVES PRISON.—The release from the Richmond penitentiary yesterday of Rev. J. E. Roane Biddick brings to a close one of the most interesting cases in the history of the State. Something less than three years ago Mr. Biddick, while pastor of a Methodist Church in Brunswick county, shot and killed Dr. William H. Temple, one of the leading physicians of the county. Dr. Temple had been attending Mrs. Biddick, and her husband grew jealous of him, called at his house, and shot him down when he came to the door. He was given three years in the penitentiary, but his moral behavior in the tailoring department materially shortened his term. During his imprisonment his name has been dropped by the Methodist Conference. Mr. Biddick quietly departed when released yesterday. It is said that he will join his wife and become a farmer.

KAISER'S SON DAZZLED CZAR.—The German Crown Prince's trip to St. Petersburg will cost \$500,000. He took a wagon load of clothes and presents. The Kaiser is determined that his heir shall be as adept as he is himself in wearing a variety of uniforms. So he made the Prince take 10 different kinds of uniforms and 16 suits of ordinary clothes. In the outfit were 10 swords and 16 sorts of headgear. The presents included a costly afternoon tea service of Charlottenburg china, white and gold, for the Czarina, and a blue china vase with a picture in relief for the Czar. Then there was a jeweller's stock of scarf pins, watches, cigarette cases, sleeve links and snuff-boxes and loads of orders of all kinds.

COURT OF APPEALS.

Southern Railway Company vs. Gregg. Argued and submitted.

William R. Trigg Company vs. Lindsey. Argued and continued until today.

The next cases to be called are Danville Railway and Electric Company vs. Hodnett, and Street's administratrix vs. Norfolk and Western Railway Company, Nos. 48 and 49.

Fifty-Seventh Congress.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 27.

SENATE.

Mr. Beveridge had read a resolution of endorsement of the Nelson single statehood bill, adopted by the commercial club of Bristol, Indian Territory. As he was addressing the Senate in connection with it, Mr. Aldrich declared that the injection of speeches into the routine business was contrary to the rules of the Senate. He objected.

Several private measures were given immediate consideration, and passed without objection, one being the printing order presented yesterday by Mr. Platt (N. Y.) and objected to by Mr. Quay which resulted in an acrimonious colloquy.

HOUSE.

The House operating under a special rule, gave consideration to bills reported from the committee on judiciary, the Littlefield anti-trust bill excepted. This bill will be given a special rule for a future day.

A number of judiciary bills were passed. The bill amending the Wilson law so as to give the States jurisdiction over liquors imported into the territory upon arrival before or after entry was next considered. The purpose of the bill is to enable the States, having prohibition laws, to prevent the violation of these laws by the importation of liquors from another State and their distribution in original packages by agents. The Supreme Court of the United States has held that the law was defective and that liquors entering in the original package were exempt from the State laws.

Mr. Bartholdt opposed the bill on the ground that it would spread the prohibition laws over the whole country and for that he was not prepared.

Mr. Clayton said that the bill had the unanimous support of the full committee on judiciary.

Mr. Smith referred to the opposition of Mr. Bartholdt and said that there were many men like him who demanded their liquor and they always found a way to get it.

Mr. Kleberg said he opposed the bill. "It is a prohibition measure before Congress in disguise. I believe in personal liberty; I am an anti-prohibitionist," he said.

Mr. Bartlett said he was against prohibition, but he thought the bill a good one, as people who elected to have prohibition should have a right to enforce their will.

The bill was passed without further objection.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

Prominent citizens of Madison county are trying to secure an electric line to run from Oriskanyville to Orange Court-house, 20